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SUBJECT: AUTHORITY AND BRIEF HISTORY

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101.1 – AUTHORITY AND BRIEF HISTORY

The Utah State Legislature created the Utah System of Technical Colleges (USTC), previously known as the Utah College of Applied Technology (UCAT), Utah's 10th institution of higher education, on September 1, 2001. The composition of USTC, as delineated in Utah Code §53B-2a-105, includes, among others, the following college:

- (1) "Bridgerland Technical College (BTECH), which serves the geographic area encompassing:
 - (a) the Box Elder School District;
 - (b) the Cache School District;
 - (c) the Logan School District; and
 - (d) the Rich School District."

As a college within USTC, Bridgerland Technical College is an operationally independent unit of a complex, multi-unit statewide institution. The College is geographically apart from the Central Administration of USTC and "(1) is permanent in nature; (2) offers at least 50 percent of the courses of an educational program leading to a certificate or other educational credential; (3) has its own faculty and administrative organization; and (4) has its own budgetary and hiring authority."

Bridgerland Technical College was officially organized under the State Board of Vocational Education in January 1971 as the Bridgerland Area Vocational Center and for several years was moved geographically to various locations around Cache Valley in northern Utah.

In September 1984, Bridgerland moved into its current main campus facility located at 1301 North 600 West in Logan, Utah. The facility was originally constructed by the Wurlitzer Company as a production plant for pianos and electric organs and became available when Wurlitzer decided to close.

In January 1990, legislation changed the name to "Applied Technology Center" to better describe the school's mission and future. Bridgerland operated as an Applied Technology Center until the legislature created UCAT, now known as USTC, as described above, which changed "Center" to "College" in 2001.

Effective July 1, 2017, legislation of SB 238 – Higher Education Governance changed the name Bridgerland Applied Technology College to Bridgerland Technical College.

Under Utah Code §53B-22-106 (a) BTECH, as a member institution under the Utah System of Technical Colleges, was granted both the responsibility and the authority to:

" . . . offer a non-credit post-secondary and secondary career and technical education curriculum."

In addition, the Legislature also established an institutional governance structure, Utah System of Technical Colleges Board of Trustees that was designed to provide authority, direction, and coordination for USTC and its member colleges.

Utah Code §53B-2a-104 states that "The Utah System of Technical Colleges Board of Trustees is:

- (1) "The Board of Trustees is vested with the control, management, and supervision of technical colleges in a manner consistent with the policy and purpose of this title and the specific powers and responsibilities granted to the Board of Trustees."